

REMARKS

The indication of the allowability of claim 18 is noted with appreciation; claim 16 from which claim 18 directly depends has been rewritten into independent format including the limitations of claim 18. Therefore, claim 16 and all claims that depend therefrom are also allowable.

Claims 1, 8 and 11 have been amended to clarify and specify that the freely rotating condition between the two halves of the articulated vehicle is triggered when a predetermined angular difference therebetween is determined. Support is found in original claim 11, as well as paragraph [0048] of the specification. As such, no new matter has been added to the claims. Paragraph [0048] reads:

[0048] In a third development, the positioning arrangement can be automatically disengaged from a fixed or damping condition so that the vehicle halves can rotate freely in relation to one another. This is desirable, for example, when driving over uneven ground where there is a risk of the vehicle overturning. If the articulation is disengaged, the rear frame half can be allowed to overturn without the cab that contains the driver overturning. Such disengagement may be triggered when a predefined value is exceeded. This value, for example, may be a function which includes one or more of the variables: pressure in a cylinder, angle of the vehicle, angular difference between the frame halves, speed of the vehicle and current turning radius. Disengagement is advantageously allowed to occur over a certain length of time; that is to say, with a certain amount of damping so that the disengagement occurs smoothly.

In that the claimed feature of triggering free rotation between the vehicle halves when a predetermined angular difference therebetween is determined is not disclosed, taught or suggested in any of the prior art of record, an indication of the allowance of the remainder of the pending claims (including those withdrawn) is respectfully solicited.

The undersigned representative requests any extension of time that may be deemed necessary to further the prosecution of this application.

The undersigned representative authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 14-1437, referencing Attorney Docket No.: 7589.146.PCUS00.

In order to facilitate the resolution of any issues or questions presented by this paper, the Examiner may directly contact the undersigned by phone to further the discussion.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tracy Druce", enclosed within a rectangular box.

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